

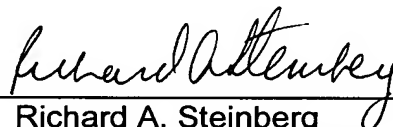
**REMARKS**

The present amendment adds reference to the priority application to the specification and provides an Abstract of the Disclosure on a clean sheet. The claims have been amended to remove the multiple dependency prior to examination. No new matter has been added.

It is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment: Abstract of the Disclosure

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention relates to a process for the preparation of a L-3,4-dihydroxyphenylalanine wherein L-3,4-dihydroxyphenylalanine is produced in a fermentation medium by aerobic fermentation of a recombinant microorganism having L-tyrosine-3-hydroxy-mono-oxygenase activity and at least the metabolic pathways: glycolysis, pentose phosphate pathway, aromatic amino acid pathway, or derivative pathways thereof, which process comprises (i) a growth phase and a production phase, wherein L-3,4-dihydroxy-phenylalanine is produced in the fermentation medium, and (ii) a downstream processing phase, and in which process L-3,4-dihydroxy-phenylalanine is produced from a carbon source and the pH is in the range from 1 to 7 during at least part of the production phase and/or downstream processing phase.